IDW

36

COVER A

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG

STANLEY • GRAHAM

GO SEGA

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STORY SO FAR

TAILS! WE'VE GOT =K$$H= TROUBLE ON OUR END. I NEED YOU TO MEET ME IN WHITE PARK ASAP*.

1 MESSAG

M
OR
ME

HE
WAS
T IN IS
DNIKS
DON'T
HAVE
ELSE
O...?

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

I WAS *DUPED*, SWEETIE. CORNERED, INTERROGATED, AND, IF YOU CAN BELIEVE IT, *HYPNOTIZED!*

HYPNOTIZED?!

I WOULDN'T BUY IT EITHER, IF IT HADN'T HAPPENED TO ME.

STARLINE! LONG TIME NO SEE, *SCUZZBALL*. WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN HIDING?

SO WHAT'LL IT BE?

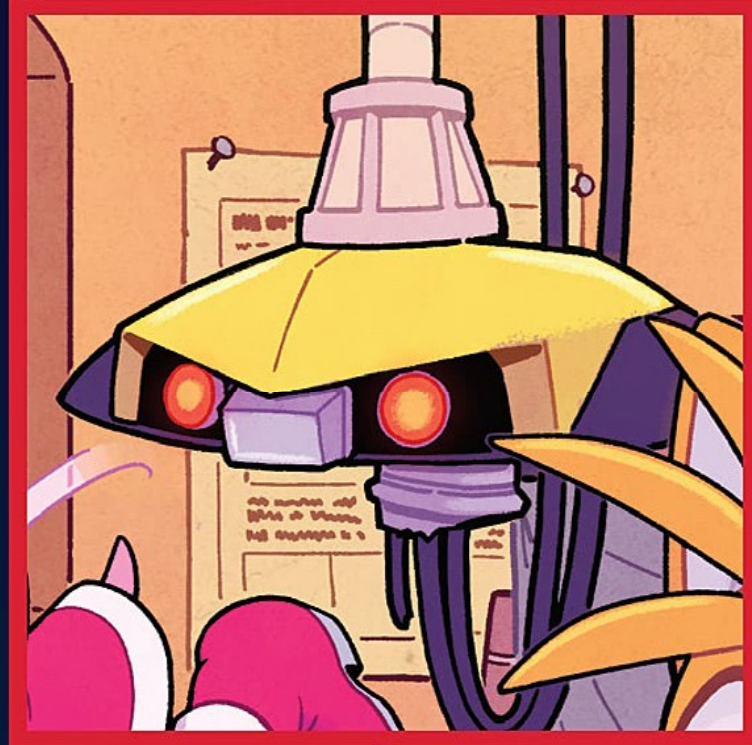
SAVE YOUR FRIENDS, OR THE HUNDREDS OF *IGNORANT INNOCENTS* WAITING IN THE CHATEAU?

NIC THE HEDGEHOG
The Blue Blur.
Fastest Thing Alive.

AMY ROSE
Adventure-ready heroine.
The chaperone.

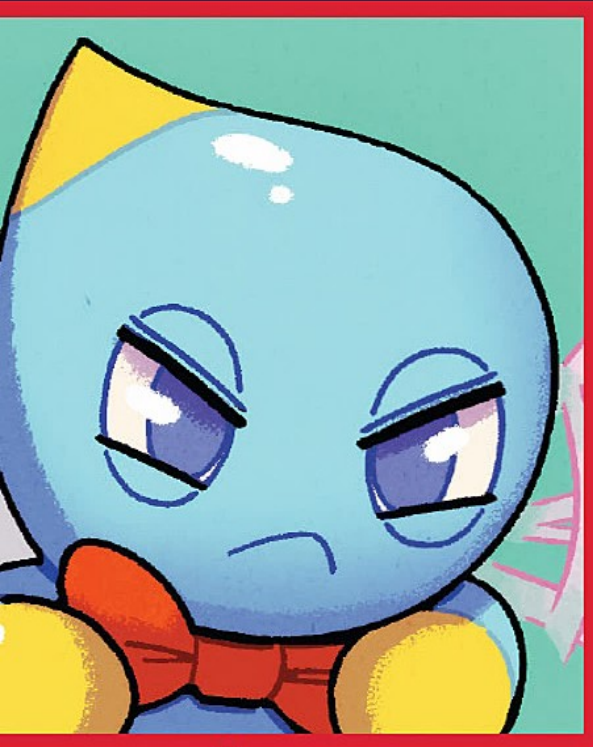
MILES "TAILS" PROW
Boy genius.
The brains.

ROUGE THE BAT
Treasure-loving spy.
The swindler.

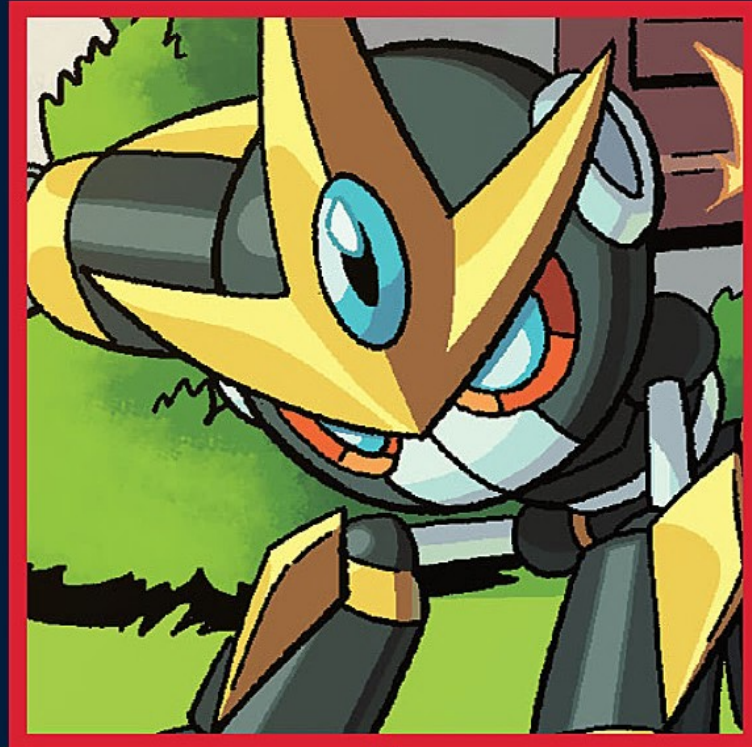


E-123 OMEGA
Damaged robot.
Stuck in a bag.

CREAM THE RABB
Compassionate heroine.
The cutest thing alive.



CHEESE
Excitable chao.
The tiny sidekick.



GEMERL
Reformed Robot.
The muscle.

BELLE THE TINKER
Mysterious Marionette.
The curveball.

DUDE, WHAT THE HECK?! YOU'D SET OFF AN *ENTIRE AVALANCHE* FOR A *DISTRACTION?*

I KNOW IT'S A BIT OF A CLICHE, BUT I COULDN'T RESIST. THE HEROES, FORCED TO CHOOSE BETWEEN THE MASSES, OR THE ONES THEY HOLD DEAR... IT'S A CLASSIC!

YOU DECIDE: A COUPLE HUNDRED TONS OF SNOW FALLING ON THOSE INNOCENT *HEADS...*

...OR TAILS?

ENOUGH GAMES.

HOLD ON! YOU AND I ARE THE ONLY ONES WITH THE SPEED TO CATCH UP WITH THAT AVALANCHE AND MAYBE STOP IT--

NOT INTERESTED.

OH, COME ON!

GO HELP THE CHATEAU, SONIC! WE'LL BE OK, I PROMISE!

YOU'D BETTER...

BOOM

HURRY, SHADOW! WE--

--WAIT, WHERE'S HE GOING?

O-OH, GOING STRAIGHT TO THE SHOWDOWN? NO MATTER! I BEAT YOU ONCE, I'LL DO IT AGAIN.

YOU DIDN'T BEAT ME...

...YOU ONLY *SEALED YOUR FATE.*

OH, FOR THE LOVE OF... WE DON'T HAVE *TIME* FOR THIS!

START CUTTING YOUR ROPES LIKE I DID, AND BE READY TO MOVE.

OMEGA, EXECUTE CODEWORD: *GET WHAT'S MINE!*

HEY, YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE TIED U--

CODEWORD ACCEPTED: INITIATING AUDITORY INTERFERENCE!

GAH!

EFFICACY OF AUDITORY ATTACKS CONFIRMED! THIS UNIT IS NEVER UNARMED!

WHOAA!

NO!

HOLD ON, SHADOW. I WANT TO POUND HIS SMUG FACE IN TOO, BUT THERE'S *WORK* TO BE DONE.

DON'T TELL ME WHAT TO DO.

I'M NOT-- IT'S YOUR CHOICE, AND YOU'RE THE ONE WHO'LL HAVE TO LIVE WITH IT.

THAT OVERGROWN SNOWBALL ISN'T GOING TO STOP ME FROM GETTING WHAT I CAME FOR-- C'MON, FOX BOY!

OKAY!

MEANWHILE...

I WISH I'D KNOWN I'D BE FIGHTING A GIANT ROBO-BEAR TODAY...

...I WOULD HAVE WORN MY GOOD BOOTS!

PIKO

GRRR

CRASH

HOW'S IT GOING OVER THERE, GEMERL?

HOLDING-- ZZT-- POSITION!

GEMERL, PLEASE RETREAT! YOU'RE HURTING YOURSELF!

I WILL PROTECT YOU...

...NO MATTER THE COST.

MS. BELLE, HOW MUCH LONGER?

THIS LAST LOCK'S A REAL HUMDINGER... GIMME A MINUTE OR TWO MORE!

I KNOW IT'S SCARY TO FIGHT, BUT MY FRIENDS ARE IN A LOT OF TROUBLE RIGHT NOW...

...WHEN WE GET YOU ALL OUT, COULD YOU HELP ME KEEP THEM SAFE?

PLEASE?

CHA-CHA-CHAO!

1000

CLANG

GEMERL!

WHAK

DONE! DIDN'T STAND A CHANCE!

THANK YOU!

NOW, IF YOU WOULD BE SO KIND... CHARGE!

CHAOOOO!

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

I MUST PROTECT YOU...

YOU ARE, SILLY!

YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE PERFECT, BECAUSE I'LL BE HERE WHEN YOU NEED HELP! WE'LL DO OUR *BEST* TO PROTECT EACH OTHER!

CREAM... THANK YOU.

H-HOW ABOUT WE TAKE A LITTLE BREATHER?

GRRRAH!

PHOOEY.

DON'T WORRY, MS. AMY! WE CAN DO THIS TOGETHER!

YEAH!

QUICKLY, DESTROY ITS PROCESSING CORE!

Y'MEAN THE *HEAD*, RIGHT? 'CAUSE THAT'S WHAT I'M SMASHING!

HIYAH!

PIKO

CRASH

THREAT NEUTRALIZED.

WHEW! BEING STUCK BEHIND A DESK, I HAVEN'T DONE THAT MUCH CARDIO IN A *WHILE!*

YOU ALL DID WONDER-FULLY!

CHAO-CHAO!

CRASH

WHAT THE HECK?!

SORRY TO DROP IN *UNANNOUNCED*, BUT...

GRAB THOSE E-100 SERIES PARTS, QUICK-- WE'VE GOTTA GO, *PEOPLE ARE IN DANGER!*

I'M USUALLY RUNNING *AWAY* FROM THESE THINGS, NOT TRYING TO *STOP* THEM! HOW AM I GONNA HANDLE THIS?

I DIDN'T KNOW STOPPING AN AVALANCHE INVOLVED SO MUCH HAND-WRINGING.

SHADOW! YOU SHOWED!

CONSIDER THIS A DEBT REPAID... FOR SUNSET CITY.*

NO WORRIES. OKAY, FOLLOW MY LEAD... I'VE GOT AN *IDEA!*

*SEE STH #19-20--EDS.

BZZZ

ZRRRAK

SHAME ABOUT THE TREES, BUT IT'S WORTH IT.

HM. BETTER THAN I WOULD HAVE EXPECTED FROM YOU.

THOOM

KA-CRASH

!!!

RRRRRRRR

NO RUNNING INSIDE THE BUILDING, PLEASE! PROCEED AT A NORMAL WALKING PACE TO--

AN AVALANCHE IS HEADED TOWARDS US, YOU NEED TO GET ALL THE GUESTS TO SAFETY!

IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY, WE HAVE AN *OFFICIAL* WARNING SYSTEM IN PLACE.

IF SOMETHING WERE WRONG, I'M SURE--

GET THESE PEOPLE TO THE EXIT, OR I'LL MAKE SOME ***NEW*** EXITS WITH MY HAMMER-- CAPICHE?

O-OH! I-IN THAT CASE, WELL...

ATTENTION, GUESTS! WE HAVE JUST RECEIVED WARNING OF AN IMPENDING DANGER TO THE CHATEAU.

PLEASE PROCEED TO THE EXITS AND CONGREGATE IN THE DESIGNATED SAFE ZONES.

GIVE THEM A LITTLE ENCOURAGEMENT, OMEGA.

ACKNOW-LEDGED, RAISING VOLUME.

RUN, PITIFUL TOURIST CREATURES, OR FACE CERTAIN DESTRUCTION!

WE SHOULD GET GOING, TOO.

NO... YOU'RE NOT GOING ANYWHERE.

I AM HAVING A VERY LONG DAY, SO I'LL KEEP THIS *SIMPLE*. ALL I REALLY NEED IS YOUNG MASTER PROWER THERE... HAND HIM OVER AND YOU CAN GO. *DEAL?*

DREAM ON, JERK!

I'M NOT IN THE GIVING MOOD, EITHER.

WHO IS THAT GUY?

DR. STARLINE? AN EGGMAN WANNABE.

THAT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE WANNABE TO ME...

DON'T WORRY. NOBODY CAN BEAT AMY WHEN SHE'S MADE UP HER MIND!

WHAK

OH, NO, I CAN'T SEEM TO STOP HITTING YOU!

COULD THIS BE A SIDE EFFECT OF THAT *HYPNOTISM AND KIDNAPPING?*

FINE...!

WHUH-- HEY!

WHOOSH

TIME TO GO, FOX.

I DON'T THINK SO.

WHAT IN THE WORLD...?

AH! MY--

SHRRRR--

KLIK-DING

OH, COME ON! WHAT EVEN WAS THAT?!

WAIT, WHAT IS THAT SOUND?

...AH. RIGHT.

WOAH

CRASH

PANDEMONIUM

EVERYONE, REMAIN CALM! THE CHATEAU WAS BUILT TO WITHSTAND THIS SORT OF EVENT!

UNBELIEVABLE...

WE WOULD HAVE BEEN BURIED!

DO YOU THINK THEY'LL GIVE US A *REFUND?*

I REFUSE TO BE LEFT ON THE FLOOR. *ELEVATE ME IMMEDIATELY!*

NO SIGN OF THE BOYS... THIS ISN'T GOOD.

YOU'RE NOT GONNA FIND 'EM THAT WAY!

IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR A *HEDGEHOG*, YOU GOTTA GO TO THE *GROUND*.

THE ONLY THING YOU'RE GONNA GET DOWN *THERE* IS A COLD EAR.

SHUSH!

YOU SHOULD-- EH?

RMBLRMBLRMBL

WELL, I'LL BE DARNED.

PAFF

IS EVERYONE ALL RIGHT?
IT'S OKAY! THE GUESTS GOT OUT IN TIME!
SO WE WASTED OUR TIME.
STARLINE GOT HIT, AT LEAST. THAT HELP?
...HMPH.
WADDAYA KNOW, PUPPETY-GIRL STUCK AROUND.
SHE DID GREAT! WE GOT THE LAST HIT IN ON STARLINE--
--AND MS. BELLE HELPED ME FREE MR. CLUTCH'S CHAO!
HUH. NOT BAD!
THANKS FOR HELPING OUT! SORRY I WAS KINDA TOUGH ON YOU BEFORE...
SPEAKING OF, I COULD USE SOME HELP BACK AT MY WORKSHOP, IF YOU WOULD... WHAT DO YOU THINK?
WAIT. *REALLY?* YOU WANT *MY* HELP IN YOUR WORKSHOP?!
YES...?
YES! ABSOLUTELY!
BACK AT THE WORKSHOP...

TIGHTEN UP THAT ELBOW JOINT JUST A SKOSH...

GOT IT!

WHY DON'T YOU GO FOR A "TEST-DRIVE" BY SPARRING A LITTLE WITH GEMERL?

SUGGESTION ACCEPTED. BUT I CANNOT GUARANTEE GEMERL'S WELFARE AFTER COMPLETING THE TEST.

WHILE I AM DESIGNED AS A *LEARNING* ROBOT, I AM ALSO CAPABLE OF TEACHING *YOU* A LESSON.

HELLO, MS. AMY! I'M HERE FOR CREAM. HOW WAS YOUR TRIP?

IT WAS AMAZING, MAMA!

RACES WERE SO *EXCITING!* CHEES
EN THOUGH THE OTHER CHAO WER
BUT IT WASN'T THEIR FAULT! AND W
T THER AS AN *AVALANCHE*, SO
M ARLINE TRIED TO *STOP*

MY, THAT SOUNDS *VERY* EXCITING.

EXCITING, BUT ALSO *SAFE!*

BESIDES, IT WAS *ROUGE'S--?!*

ROUGE!

PHEW! IT GOT A LITTLE TOUCH-AND-GO AT THE END, THERE...

THINGS DIDN'T GO RIGHT, BUT THAT'S NOT WHAT REALLY MATTERED.

I'M GLAD YOU CAME TO HELP.

DON'T OVERTHINK IT, HEDGEHOG.

...

FOR SURE, DUDE.

IT'S SO *NICE* TO BE HELPING OUT!

FIXING THINGS, SOLVING PROBLEMS... I'VE *MISSED* THIS.

UH-HUH...

...THERE'S SOMETHING I CAN'T FIGURE OUT. THIS WHOLE TIME, YOU'VE BEEN READING THESE BLUEPRINTS LIKE IT WAS *NOTHING*.

THE WHOLE REASON SONIC AND I WERE IN THE BASE WAS BECAUSE I NEEDED A CIPHER SO I COULD *DECODE* THESE FILES.

THE ONLY PERSON IN THE WORLD WHO IS SUPPOSED TO BE ABLE TO READ THIS IS DR. EGGMAN... OR MAYBE SOMETHING HE *CREATED*, LIKE ORBOT.

I'M NOT MAD, I JUST WISH YOU'D BEEN *HONEST* WITH ME.

HE DIDN'T CREATE ME.

...

THEN WHO *DID*?

=SIGH= OKAY.

FAR AWAY...

UGH, WHAT A DISASTER. WOULD IT *HURT* THEM TO GO ALONG WITH THE PLAN FOR ONCE?

IT'S GOING TO TAKE *WEEKS* TO GET MY BILL BACK TO NORMAL.

AND THEY *COMPLETELY* RUINED MY PERM!

ALTHOUGH I SUPPOSE IT'S NOT ALL FOR NAUGHT.

LIVE
Laugh
LOVE

THE *COMPLETE SPECIMEN* WOULD HAVE BEEN IDEAL, BUT I STILL GOT WHAT I *NEEDED*.

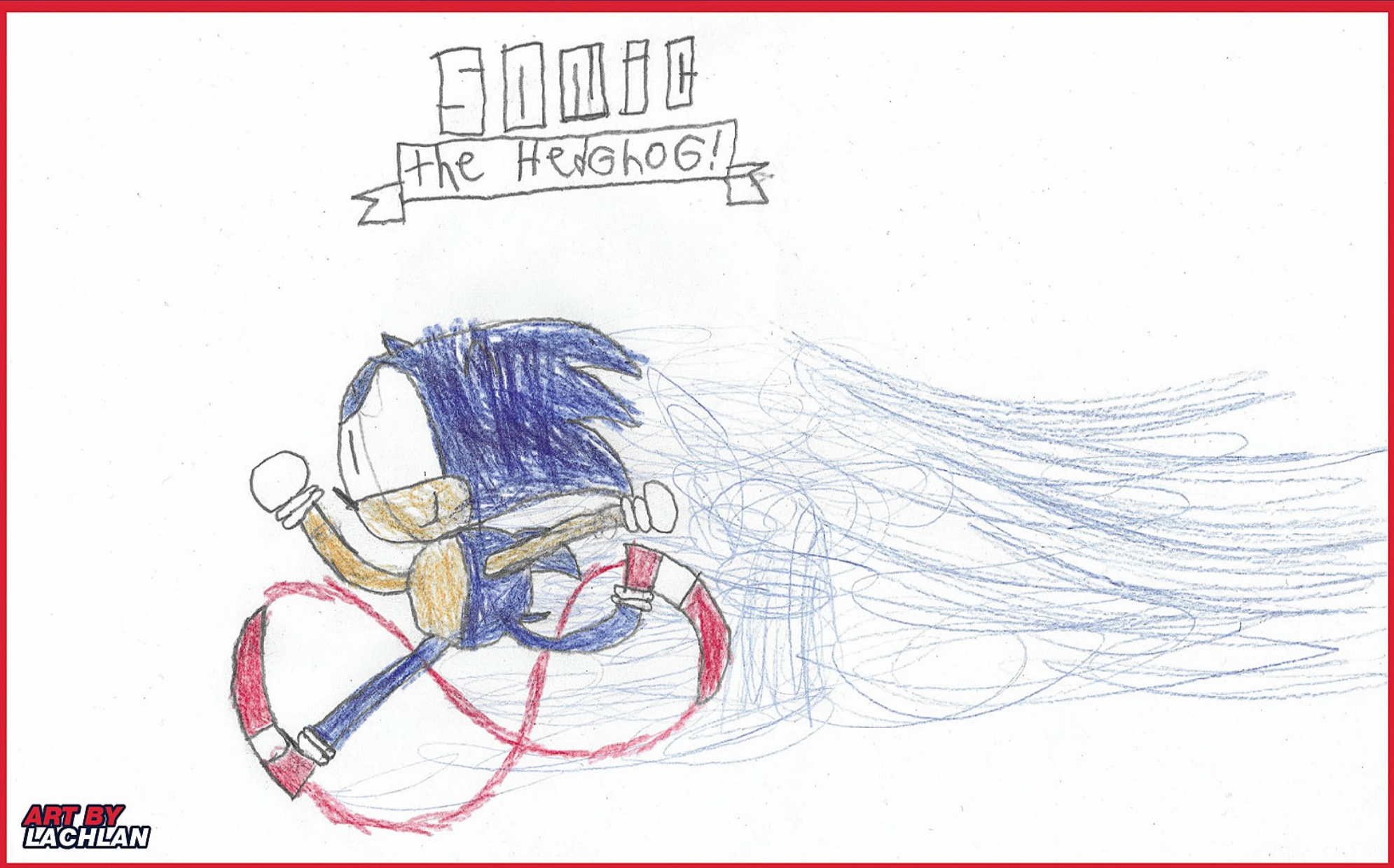
YES... THIS SHOULD DO *NICELY*.

NEXT TIME:
A TRUE TEST!

NEXT MONTH

SONIC LETTERS SQUAD

What's up, Squad! The chao are safe, Cream is home, and Belle has a home. But Starline… is he coming to ruin it all!? Thank you for joining Evan Stanley, Reggie Graham, and Shawn Lee for the conclusion of "Chao Races and Badnik Bases"! Now, on to your beautiful fanart!



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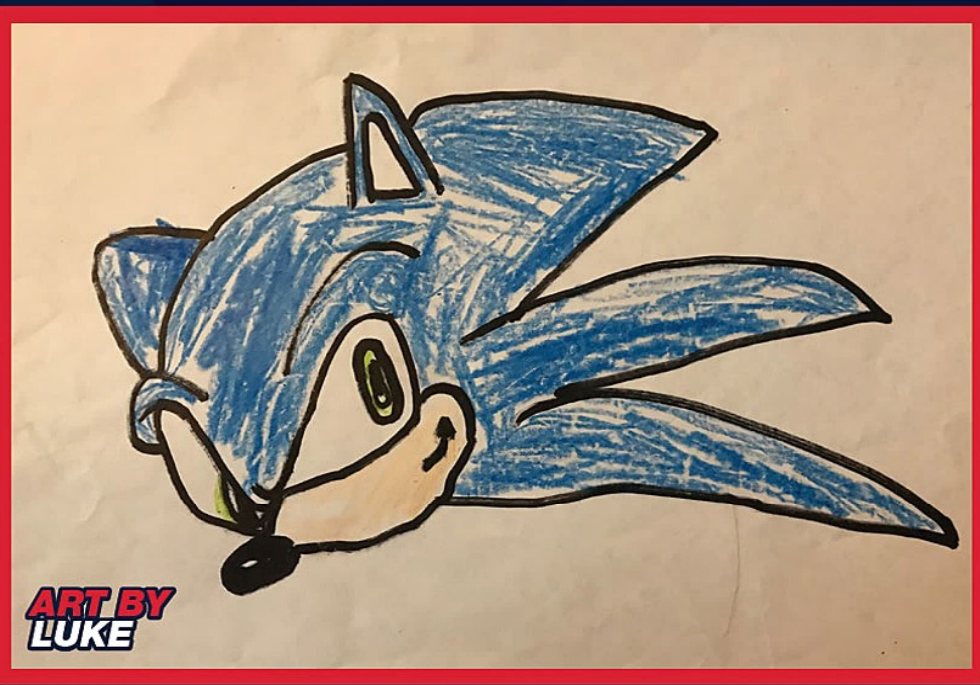
ART BY KATHSHIROLL

ART BY CHAZ



Thanks for joining us, Squad. Don't forget to send your art and letters to letters@idwpublishing.com, and make sure to mark them: "OKAY TO PRINT!" And join the IDW Sonic Comics Squad on Facebook! Next month, Sonic and co. are pushed to their limits in Evan Stanley's second arc "Test Run"!

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ART: NATHALIE FOURDRAINE

IDW

2020

COVER A

SONIC™

THE HEDGEHOG

FREE DIGITAL ASHCAN

TAKE A PEEK AT ANOTHER AWESOME COMIC YOU MAY LIKE...

GO SEGA

BIG'S BIG ADVENTURE

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REGGIE GRAHAM

DARKEST HOUR

STORY/ART
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STORY
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COLORS
BRACARDI CURRY

FLOCK TOGETHER

STORY
SAM KING
ART
JAMAL PEPPERS
COLORS
PRISCILLA TRAMONTANO

THE CATALYST

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ART
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LETTERS
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BIG

BIG ADVENTURE

WOW. WOULD YA LOOK AT THAT?

DON'T MATTER HOW MANY TIMES WE'VE SEEN IT, IT SURE IS PRETTY, *HUH*, FROGGY?

RIBBIT

THAT TOO!

HAVEN'T BEEN HERE TO SEE IT FOR A WHILE, THOUGH. YOU LED ME ON A PRETTY LONG ADVENTURE...

"FIRST, YOU LED ME ALL THE WAY TO VISTA VIEW..."

VISTA VIEW SEWERS
TUNNEL SYSTEM #1

WHAM!!!

HEY, BIG GUY!

HEY, LITTLE GUY.

EXIT

TUNNEL SYSTEM

SPANG!

"HEDGEHOG." NOUN. A BURROWING ANIMAL.

"FROM THERE, I FOLLOWED YOU TO RIVERSIDE...

"...TO BARRICADE TOWN..."

LOOKIN' TO SCRAP?

NO.

THEN GET READY TO CRUMBLE!

NO THANK YOU.

"...TO SPIRAL HILL VILLAGE..."

FROGGY! IT'S NOT SAFE HERE! C'MON!

"...BUT I LOST TRACK OF YOU OUTSIDE WINDMILL VILLAGE."

"I SEARCHED HIGH...

"...I SEARCHED LOW...

"I THOUGHT I SAW YOU BOARD THE BIG SHUTTLE, BUT I GUESS IT WAS A WISP INSTEAD. SO I TOOK A NAP.

"I DIDN'T THINK ANYONE WOULD MIND."

I DIDN'T THINK YOU'D BE FOR A BIG TEAM-UP.

SLIDE

SLIDE

I'M HERE FOR MY OWN REASONS.

"WE WENT ALL THE WAY TO ANGEL ISLAND!

"AND YOU'LL NEVER BELIEVE IT FROGGY--IT FELL DOWN! AND *I* FELL *OFF!*

?

"BUT IT'S OKAY. IT WENT BACK UP AND I PADDLED BACK TO SHORE TO FIND YOU.

LI'L WATER QUACKER JR.

"IT'S A GOOD THING YOU WEREN'T IN THE OCEAN, 'CAUSE THAT'S A LOOOT OF FISHING GROUND."

"I DECIDED TO RETRACE MY STEPS. I DIDN'T FIND YOU, BUT I *DID* KEEP COMING ACROSS THESE SCARY LOOKING GUYS.

"FIRST THEY GOT VISITED BY A MAGICIAN..."

EGGMAN WILL BE WILLING TO HELP A COUPLE OF MOOKS LIKE US?

I'M SURE OF IT. AS I SAID, I NEED YOUR HELP BRINGING HIM HOME, FIRST.

"...WHO WAS PERFORMING FOR SONIC AND SILVER ON FROZEN PEAK A FEW DAYS LATER.

EGG-14

"HE ONLY DID THE ONE TRICK, THOUGH. HE'S A BORING MAGICIAN.

"ANYWAY, THOSE SCARY-LOOKIN' GUYS WERE IN WINDMILL VILLAGE WHEN I GOT BACK THERE.

"I THINK THEIR NAMES WERE... RASH AND TRUFFLES?"

SWING AND A MISS!

"AND I THOUGHT I HEARD THEIR VOICES WHEN I LOOKED FOR YOU IN ECHO MINE, BUT I DIDN'T SEE ANYBODY.

KRAK

"I GUESS THE LONELINESS WAS PLAYING TRICKS ON ME."

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SONIC THE HEDGEHOG™

THE HEDGEHOG

TO BE CONTINUED IN...

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG ANNUAL 2020

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